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 FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1815
 INFO RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
 RUHJWXA/COMUSNAVPHIL SUBIC BAY RP
 RUMJAAA/13THAF CLARK AB RP
 BT
 C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 32524

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: NOV 27, 1994
 TAGS: PGOV, RP
 SUBJECT: MARCOS REAPPEARS IN PUBLIC

REFERENCE: MANILA 32404

1. (U) PRESIDENT MARCOS APPEARED IN PUBLIC NOV 26 FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE HIS NOV 13 MEETING WITH SENATOR DODD AND THE AMBASSADOR. WITNESSED BY HIS CABINET, ASSEMBLYMEN, AND OTHER GOP OFFICIALS, HE SIGNED INTO LAW THE 1985 BUDGET IN HIS OFFICE AT MALACANANG.
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2. (C) MARCOS' APPEARANCE WAS VIDEOTAPED AND LATER TELEVISED. NO QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN RAISED ABOUT THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE DATE OF THE PRESIDENT'S LATEST TV APPEARANCE.
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3. (C) COMMENT: MARCOS LOOKED WEAK, REPORTEDLY SPOKE IN A HOARSE VOICE, AND HAS CERTAINLY NOT FULLY RECOVERED FROM HIS RECENT MEDICAL PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, HIS NOV 26 APPEARANCE PROVIDED INCONTROVERTIBLE EVIDENCE THAT HE IS ALIVE AND ALERT. NEVERTHELESS, QUESTIONS REMAIN ABOUT THE NATURE OF HIS ILLNESS AND HIS NEAR- AND LONG-TERM HEALTH PROSPECTS. PALACE ASSERTIONS THAT HE HAS BEEN SUFFERING FROM A BOUT OF INFLUENZA OR ASTHMA ARE NOT WIDELY BELIEVED BY FILIPINOS. FROM SEVERAL VIEWINGS OF VIDEOTAPE EXCERPTS, WE HAVE IMPRESSION HE MAY HAVE BEEN BANDAGED OR STRAPPED UP AROUND THE TORSO. BOSWORTH

END OF MESSAGE

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State Dept. review completed

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